

Request for an Amendment to a §1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Waiver

1. Request Information

- A. The State of Kansas requests approval for an amendment to the following Medicaid home and community-based services waiver approved under authority of §1915(c) of the Social Security Act.
- B. **Program Title:**
Kansas Physical Disability Waiver
- C. **Waiver Number:** KS.0304
Original Base Waiver Number: KS.0304.
- D. **Amendment Number:**
- E. **Proposed Effective Date:** (mm/dd/yy)
01/01/13
Approved Effective Date of Waiver being Amended: 01/01/10

2. Purpose(s) of Amendment

Purpose(s) of the Amendment. Describe the purpose(s) of the amendment:

The purpose of this amendment is to integrate the services provided under this waiver with the State's Section 1115 KanCare Demonstration Project, effective January 1, 2013. KanCare is an integrated delivery system in which nearly all Medicaid services, including services provided under this waiver, will be provided through the KanCare health plans.

3. Nature of the Amendment

- A. **Component(s) of the Approved Waiver Affected by the Amendment.** This amendment affects the following component(s) of the approved waiver. Revisions to the affected subsection(s) of these component(s) are being submitted concurrently (*check each that applies*):

Component of the Approved Waiver	Subsection(s)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waiver Application	Main, 1.E, 1.G., 2, Tr
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix A – Waiver Administration and Operation	A.3, A.7, Quality Per
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix B – Participant Access and Eligibility	B.3.b, B.6, B.6.e, Qu
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix C – Participant Services	C-1/C-3, C.1.b, C.1.c
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix D – Participant Centered Service Planning and Delivery	D.1.b., D.1.d, D.2, Qi
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix E – Participant Direction of Services	Participant Direction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix F – Participant Rights	Participant Rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix G – Participant Safeguards	G.1, G.2, G.3, Qualit
<input type="checkbox"/> Appendix H	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix I – Financial Accountability	Amended to reflect c
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appendix J – Cost-Neutrality Demonstration	Amended to reflect c

- B. **Nature of the Amendment.** Indicate the nature of the changes to the waiver that are proposed in the amendment (*check each that applies*):
- ☐ Modify target group(s)
 - ☐ Modify Medicaid eligibility
 - ☐ Add/delete services
 - ☐ Revise service specifications
 - ☐ Revise provider qualifications
 - ☐ Increase/decrease number of participants
 - ☒ Revise cost neutrality demonstration
 - ☐ Add participant-direction of services

☒ **Other**

Specify:

Integrate services into capitated health plans.

Application for a §1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Waiver

1. Request Information (1 of 3)

A. The State of Kansas requests approval for a Medicaid home and community-based services (HCBS) waiver under the authority of §1915(c) of the Social Security Act (the Act).

B. Program Title (*optional - this title will be used to locate this waiver in the finder*):

Kansas Physical Disability Waiver

C. Type of Request: amendment

Requested Approval Period: (*For new waivers requesting five year approval periods, the waiver must serve individuals who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare.*)

☒ 3 years ☐ 5 years

Original Base Waiver Number: KS.0304

Draft ID: KS.14.03.07

D. Type of Waiver (*select only one*):

Regular Waiver

E. Proposed Effective Date of Waiver being Amended: 01/01/10

Approved Effective Date of Waiver being Amended: 01/01/10

1. Request Information (2 of 3)

F. Level(s) of Care. This waiver is requested in order to provide home and community-based waiver services to individuals who, but for the provision of such services, would require the following level(s) of care, the costs of which would be reimbursed under the approved Medicaid State plan (*check each that applies*):

Hospital

Select applicable level of care

☒ Hospital as defined in 42 CFR §440.10

If applicable, specify whether the State additionally limits the waiver to subcategories of the hospital level of care:

☐ Inpatient psychiatric facility for individuals age 21 and under as provided in 42 CFR §440.160

☒ **Nursing Facility**

Select applicable level of care

☒ Nursing Facility As defined in 42 CFR §440.40 and 42 CFR §440.155

If applicable, specify whether the State additionally limits the waiver to subcategories of the nursing facility level of care:

N/A

☐ Institution for Mental Disease for persons with mental illnesses aged 65 and older as provided in 42 CFR §440.140

☐ Intermediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded (ICF/MR) (as defined in 42 CFR §440.150)

If applicable, specify whether the State additionally limits the waiver to subcategories of the ICF/MR level of care:

1. Request Information (3 of 3)

G. Concurrent Operation with Other Programs. This waiver operates concurrently with another program (or programs) approved under the following authorities

Select one:

☐ Not applicable

☒ Applicable

Check the applicable authority or authorities:

☐ Services furnished under the provisions of §1915(a)(1)(a) of the Act and described in Appendix I Waiver(s) authorized under §1915(b) of the Act.

Specify the §1915(b) waiver program and indicate whether a §1915(b) waiver application has been submitted or previously approved: _____

☐ Specify the §1915(b) authorities under which this program operates (*check each that applies*):

☐ §1915(b)(1) (mandated enrollment to managed care)

☐ §1915(b)(2) (central broker)

☐ §1915(b)(3) (employ cost savings to furnish additional services)

☐ §1915(b)(4) (selective contracting/limit number of providers)

☐ A program operated under §1932(a) of the Act.

Specify the nature of the State Plan benefit and indicate whether the State Plan Amendment has been submitted or previously approved: _____

☐ A program authorized under §1915(i) of the Act.

☐ A program authorized under §1915(j) of the Act.

☒ A program authorized under §1115 of the Act.

Specify the program:

KanCare 1115 Demonstration Project

H. Dual Eligibility for Medicaid and Medicare.

Check if applicable:

☐ This waiver provides services for individuals who are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid.

2. Brief Waiver Description

Brief Waiver Description. *In one page or less*, briefly describe the purpose of the waiver, including its goals, objectives, organizational structure (e.g., the roles of state, local and other entities), and service delivery methods.

The purpose of the Kansas Physical Disability (PD) waiver is to provide eligible Kansans the option to receive services in their home and community rather than in a more expensive, less-integrated nursing home setting. PD services are available to individuals who are between the minimum age of 16 years and the maximum age of 64 years, and who are financially eligible for Medicaid. Individuals must also meet the minimum PD threshold score on a functional assessment conducted by an Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) acting as the State's designee. Participants are annually reassessed by an ADRC to determine if they continue to meet the level of care.

Services available through the PD waiver are: assistive services, financial management services, home-delivered meals, medication reminder services and installation, personal emergency response system and installation, personal services (self-directed and agency-directed), and sleep cycle support.

With this amendment, PD waiver services will be provided as a part of a comprehensive package of services provided by KanCare health plans (Managed Care Organizations), and will be paid as part of a capitated rate. The health plans are responsible for assigning a case manager who will conduct a comprehensive needs assessment and develop a person-centric plan of care that includes both state plan services and, as appropriate, the PD services listed above.

The move to integrate PD waiver services into KanCare does not diminish the waiver's focus on independent living and consumer-driven services. Consumers will continue to have a choice between consumer-directed (self-directed) services whereby they choose their personal care attendants, or they may choose agency directed (non-self-directed) services using licensed home health agency staff as personal care attendants.

3. Components of the Waiver Request

The waiver application consists of the following components. *Note: Item 3-E must be completed.*

- A. **Waiver Administration and Operation.** Appendix A specifies the administrative and operational structure of this waiver.
- B. **Participant Access and Eligibility.** Appendix B specifies the target group(s) of individuals who are served in this waiver, the number of participants that the State expects to serve during each year that the waiver is in effect, applicable Medicaid eligibility and post-eligibility (if applicable) requirements, and procedures for the evaluation and reevaluation of level of care.
- C. **Participant Services.** Appendix C specifies the home and community-based waiver services that are furnished through the waiver, including applicable limitations on such services.
- D. **Participant-Centered Service Planning and Delivery.** Appendix D specifies the procedures and methods that the State uses to develop, implement and monitor the participant-centered service plan (of care).
- E. **Participant-Direction of Services.** When the State provides for participant direction of services, Appendix E specifies the participant direction opportunities that are offered in the waiver and the supports that are available to participants who direct their services. (*Select one*):

- ☒ **Yes.** This waiver provides participant direction opportunities. *Appendix E is required.*
- ☐ **No.** This waiver does not provide participant direction opportunities. *Appendix E is not required.*

- F. **Participant Rights.** Appendix F specifies how the State informs participants of their Medicaid Fair Hearing rights and other procedures to address participant grievances and complaints.
- G. **Participant Safeguards.** Appendix G describes the safeguards that the State has established to assure the health and welfare of waiver participants in specified areas.
- H. **Quality Improvement Strategy.** Appendix H contains the Quality Improvement Strategy for this waiver.
- I. **Financial Accountability.** Appendix I describes the methods by which the State makes payments for waiver services, ensures the integrity of these payments, and complies with applicable federal requirements concerning payments and federal financial participation.
- J. **Cost-Neutrality Demonstration.** Appendix J contains the State's demonstration that the waiver is cost-neutral.

4. Waiver(s) Requested

- A. **Comparability.** The State requests a waiver of the requirements contained in §1902(a)(10)(B) of the Act in order to provide the services specified in Appendix C that are not otherwise available under the approved Medicaid State plan to individuals who: (a) require the level(s) of care specified in Item 1.F and (b) meet the target group criteria specified in Appendix B.
- B. **Income and Resources for the Medically Needy.** Indicate whether the State requests a waiver of §1902(a)(10)(C)(i) (III) of the Act in order to use institutional income and resource rules for the medically needy (*select one*):
 - ☐ Not Applicable
 - ☐ No
 - ☒ Yes
- C. **Statewidelessness.** Indicate whether the State requests a waiver of the statewidelessness requirements in §1902(a)(1) of the Act (*select one*):
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Yes

If yes, specify the waiver of statewidelessness that is requested (*check each that applies*):

 - ☐ **Geographic Limitation.** A waiver of statewidelessness is requested in order to furnish services under this waiver only to individuals who reside in the following geographic areas or political subdivisions of the State.

Specify the areas to which this waiver applies and, as applicable, the phase-in schedule of the waiver by geographic area:

Limited Implementation of Participant-Direction. A waiver of statewideness is requested in order to make *participant-direction of services* as specified in **Appendix E** available only to individuals who reside in the following geographic areas or political subdivisions of the State. Participants who reside in these areas may elect to direct their services as provided by the State or receive comparable services through the service delivery methods that are in effect elsewhere in the State.

Specify the areas of the State affected by this waiver and, as applicable, the phase-in schedule of the waiver by geographic area:

5. Assurances

In accordance with 42 CFR §441.302, the State provides the following assurances to CMS:

- A. **Health & Welfare:** The State assures that necessary safeguards have been taken to protect the health and welfare of persons receiving services under this waiver. These safeguards include:
 1. As specified in **Appendix C**, adequate standards for all types of providers that provide services under this waiver;
 2. Assurance that the standards of any State licensure or certification requirements specified in **Appendix C** are met for services or for individuals furnishing services that are provided under the waiver. The State assures that these requirements are met on the date that the services are furnished; and,
 3. Assurance that all facilities subject to §1616(e) of the Act where home and community-based waiver services are provided comply with the applicable State standards for board and care facilities as specified in **Appendix C**.
- B. **Financial Accountability.** The State assures financial accountability for funds expended for home and community-based services and maintains and makes available to the Department of Health and Human Services (including the Office of the Inspector General), the Comptroller General, or other designees, appropriate financial records documenting the cost of services provided under the waiver. Methods of financial accountability are specified in **Appendix I**.
- C. **Evaluation of Need:** The State assures that it provides for an initial evaluation (and periodic reevaluations, at least annually) of the need for a level of care specified for this waiver, when there is a reasonable indication that an individual might need such services in the near future (one month or less) but for the receipt of home and community based services under this waiver. The procedures for evaluation and reevaluation of level of care are specified in **Appendix B**.
- D. **Choice of Alternatives:** The State assures that when an individual is determined to be likely to require the level of care specified for this waiver and is in a target group specified in **Appendix B**, the individual (or, legal representative, if applicable) is:
 1. Informed of any feasible alternatives under the waiver; and,
 2. Given the choice of either institutional or home and community based waiver services. **Appendix B** specifies the procedures that the State employs to ensure that individuals are informed of feasible alternatives under the waiver and given the choice of institutional or home and community-based waiver services.
- E. **Average Per Capita Expenditures:** The State assures that, for any year that the waiver is in effect, the average per capita expenditures under the waiver will not exceed 100 percent of the average per capita expenditures that would have been made under the Medicaid State plan for the level(s) of care specified for this waiver had the waiver not been granted. Cost-neutrality is demonstrated in **Appendix J**.
- F. **Actual Total Expenditures:** The State assures that the actual total expenditures for home and community-based waiver and other Medicaid services and its claim for FFP in expenditures for the services provided to individuals

under the waiver will not, in any year of the waiver period, exceed 100 percent of the amount that would be incurred in the absence of the waiver by the State's Medicaid program for these individuals in the institutional setting(s) specified for this waiver.

- G. **Institutionalization Absent Waiver:** The State assures that, absent the waiver, individuals served in the waiver would receive the appropriate type of Medicaid-funded institutional care for the level of care specified for this waiver.
- H. **Reporting:** The State assures that annually it will provide CMS with information concerning the impact of the waiver on the type, amount and cost of services provided under the Medicaid State plan and on the health and welfare of waiver participants. This information will be consistent with a data collection plan designed by CMS.
- I. **Habilitation Services.** The State assures that prevocational, educational, or supported employment services, or a combination of these services, if provided as habilitation services under the waiver are: (1) not otherwise available to the individual through a local educational agency under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; and, (2) furnished as part of expanded habilitation services.
- J. **Services for Individuals with Chronic Mental Illness.** The State assures that federal financial participation (FFP) will not be claimed in expenditures for waiver services including, but not limited to, day treatment or partial hospitalization, psychosocial rehabilitation services, and clinic services provided as home and community-based services to individuals with chronic mental illnesses if these individuals, in the absence of a waiver, would be placed in an IMD and are: (1) age 22 to 64; (2) age 65 and older and the State has not included the optional Medicaid benefit cited in 42 CFR §440.140; or (3) age 21 and under and the State has not included the optional Medicaid benefit cited in 42 CFR § 440.160.

6. Additional Requirements

Note: Item 6-I must be completed.

- A. **Service Plan.** In accordance with 42 CFR §441.301(b)(1)(i), a participant-centered service plan (of care) is developed for each participant employing the procedures specified in **Appendix D**. All waiver services are furnished pursuant to the service plan. The service plan describes: (a) the waiver services that are furnished to the participant, their projected frequency and the type of provider that furnishes each service and (b) the other services (regardless of funding source, including State plan services) and informal supports that complement waiver services in meeting the needs of the participant. The service plan is subject to the approval of the Medicaid agency. Federal financial participation (FFP) is not claimed for waiver services furnished prior to the development of the service plan or for services that are not included in the service plan.
- B. **Inpatients.** In accordance with 42 CFR §441.301(b)(1) (ii), waiver services are not furnished to individuals who are in-patients of a hospital, nursing facility or ICF/MR.
- C. **Room and Board.** In accordance with 42 CFR §441.310(a)(2), FFP is not claimed for the cost of room and board except when: (a) provided as part of respite services in a facility approved by the State that is not a private residence or (b) claimed as a portion of the rent and food that may be reasonably attributed to an unrelated caregiver who resides in the same household as the participant, as provided in **Appendix I**.
- D. **Access to Services.** The State does not limit or restrict participant access to waiver services except as provided in **Appendix C**.
- E. **Free Choice of Provider.** In accordance with 42 CFR §431.151, a participant may select any willing and qualified provider to furnish waiver services included in the service plan unless the State has received approval to limit the number of providers under the provisions of §1915(b) or another provision of the Act.
- F. **FFP Limitation.** In accordance with 42 CFR §433 Subpart D, FFP is not claimed for services when another third-party (e.g., another third party health insurer or other federal or state program) is legally liable and responsible for the provision and payment of the service. FFP also may not be claimed for services that are available without charge, or as free care to the community. Services will not be considered to be without charge, or free care, when (1) the provider establishes a fee schedule for each service available and (2) collects insurance information from all those served (Medicaid, and non-Medicaid), and bills other legally liable third party insurers. Alternatively, if a provider certifies that a particular legally liable third party insurer does not pay for the service(s), the provider may not generate further bills for that insurer for that annual period.

- G. Fair Hearing:** The State provides the opportunity to request a Fair Hearing under 42 CFR §431 Subpart E, to individuals: (a) who are not given the choice of home and community- based waiver services as an alternative to institutional level of care specified for this waiver; (b) who are denied the service(s) of their choice or the provider(s) of their choice; or (c) whose services are denied, suspended, reduced or terminated. **Appendix F** specifies the State's procedures to provide individuals the opportunity to request a Fair Hearing, including providing notice of action as required in 42 CFR §431.210.
- H. Quality Improvement.** The State operates a formal, comprehensive system to ensure that the waiver meets the assurances and other requirements contained in this application. Through an ongoing process of discovery, remediation and improvement, the State assures the health and welfare of participants by monitoring: (a) level of care determinations; (b) individual plans and services delivery; (c) provider qualifications; (d) participant health and welfare; (e) financial oversight and (f) administrative oversight of the waiver. The State further assures that all problems identified through its discovery processes are addressed in an appropriate and timely manner, consistent with the severity and nature of the problem. During the period that the waiver is in effect, the State will implement the Quality Improvement Strategy specified in **Appendix H**.
- I. Public Input.** Describe how the State secures public input into the development of the waiver:
The original Kansas Physical Disabilities (PD) waiver was written with significant input provided by persons with physical disabilities, advocates, and service providers. Input continues to be provided by the PD Waiver Steering Committee (PDSC), which is similarly represented. This group meets on a quarterly basis to consult with and to advise the oversight agency on all aspects of the waiver program, including development. Work groups with representation from the PDSC and other interested parties, including community members, are often utilized to discuss, research, write, and refine proposed policies and policy changes. In addition, public input is solicited on the SRS web site whenever proposed policies or policy changes specific to the PD waiver are considered.
- Prior to submitting the request to amend this waiver, input was sought from stakeholders. There were discussions held regarding the impact of the changes, as well as alternatives to the proposals presented. Stakeholder input was considered and changes to the original proposals were made as a result of that feedback. Input was sought from tribal governments on November 24, 2010 and again on February 18, 2011.
- In the summer of 2011, the State of Kansas facilitated a Medicaid public input and stakeholder consultation process, during which more than 1,700 participants engaged in discussions on how to reform the Kansas Medicaid system. Participants produced more than 2,000 comments and recommendations for reform. After three public forums in Topeka, Wichita and Dodge City, web teleconferences were held with stakeholders representing Medicaid population groups and providers. The State also made an online comment tool available, and a fourth, wrap-up public forum was conducted in Overland Park in August 2011.
- The State carefully considered the input from this process and from meetings with advocates and provider associations. In November 2011, Kansas announced a comprehensive Medicaid reform plan that incorporated the themes that had emerged from the public process, including integrated, whole-person care; preserving and creating paths to independence; alternative access models; and enhancing community-based services. The State conducted a formal public comment period related to the KanCare waiver application in June and July 2012. The State also conducted two rounds of tribal consultation, an initial consultation meeting in February 2012, and the second in June and July 2012, incorporating feedback from that process in its August 6 application.
- J. Notice to Tribal Governments.** The State assures that it has notified in writing all federally-recognized Tribal Governments that maintain a primary office and/or majority population within the State of the State's intent to submit a Medicaid waiver request or renewal request to CMS at least 60 days before the anticipated submission date is provided by Presidential Executive Order 13175 of November 6, 2000. Evidence of the applicable notice is available through the Medicaid Agency.
- K. Limited English Proficient Persons.** The State assures that it provides meaningful access to waiver services by Limited English Proficient persons in accordance with: (a) Presidential Executive Order 13166 of August 11, 2000 (65 FR 50121) and (b) Department of Health and Human Services "Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons" (68 FR 47311 - August 8, 2003). **Appendix B** describes how the State assures meaningful access to waiver services by Limited English Proficient persons.

7. Contact Person(s)

- A.** The Medicaid agency representative with whom CMS should communicate regarding the waiver is:

Last Name:
First Name: Haverkamp
Title: Rita
Agency: State Plan/Regulation Manager
Address: Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Address 2: Landon State Office Building, Room 900N
City: 900 SW Jackson Street
State: Topeka
Zip: Kansas
Phone: 66612-1220
Fax: (785) 296-5107 **Ext:** **TTY**
E-mail: (785) 296-4813
RHaverkamp@kdheks.gov

B. If applicable, the State operating agency representative with whom CMS should communicate regarding the waiver is:

Last Name: Trachta
First Name: Amy
Title: PD Program Manager
Agency: Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services/Disability and Behavioral Health
Address: Docking State Office Building, 9th Floor East
Address 2: 915 SW Harrison Street
City: Topeka
State: Kansas
Zip: 66612-1570

Phone:

Fax:

(785) 296-0648

Ext:

TTY

E-mail:

8.

**Authorizing
Signature**

(785) 296-0557

This document, together with the attached revisions to the affected components of the waiver, constitutes the State's request to amend its approved waiver under §1915(c) of the Social Security Act. The State affirms that it will abide by all provisions of the waiver, including the provisions of this amendment when approved by CMS. The State further attests that it will continuously operate the waiver in accordance with the assurances specified in Section V and the additional requirements specified in Section VI of the approved waiver. The State certifies that additional proposed revisions to the waiver request will be submitted by the Medicaid agency in the form of additional waiver amendments.

Signature:

State Medicaid Director or Designee

Submission Date:

Note: The Signature and Submission Date fields will be automatically completed when the State Medicaid Director submits the application.

Last Name:

First Name:

Title:

Agency:

Address:

Address 2:

City:

State:

Kansas

Zip:

Phone:

Ext:

TTY

Fax:

E-mail:

Attachment #1: Transition Plan

Specify the transition plan for the waiver:

The integration of PD waiver services into KanCare health plans will take effect January 1, 2013, with the implementation of KanCare. The change is limited to the delivery system. There is no change in eligibility for the waiver services or the scope and amount of services available to waiver participants.

The State's plan for transition of PD services to KanCare is multi-pronged:

1. **Beneficiary Education and Notification; Targeted Readiness for HCBS Waiver Providers.** The State has conducted extensive outreach to all Medicaid beneficiaries and providers regarding the integration of PD waivers services into KanCare. There have been five rounds of educational tours to multiple cities and towns across the state since July 2012. These tours generally included daily sessions for providers and daily sessions for beneficiaries (and usually included two different beneficiary sessions in the day – one earlier in the day and one later in the day to accommodate a wide range of schedules). Two of these tours were for all KanCare beneficiaries and providers; one focused on dental providers; and one was specifically focused on those beneficiaries and providers that have not previously been in managed care. The final tour is being conducted after member selection materials are distributed, in November 2012, designed specifically to assist beneficiaries in fully understanding their options and selecting their KanCare plan.

In addition to beneficiary education, the providers that support HCBS waiver members have received additional outreach, information, transition planning and education regarding the KanCare program, to ensure an effective and smooth transition. In addition to the broader KanCare provider outreach (including educational tours and weekly stakeholder update calls), the providers that support HCBS waiver members have had focused discussions with state staff and MCO staff about operationalizing the KanCare program; about transition planning (and specific flexibility to support this) for the shift of targeted case management into MCO care management; and about member support in selecting their KanCare plan.

Beneficiaries received notices throughout November informing them of the changes that the KanCare program will bring effective 1.1.13, pending CMS approval; advising them as to which of the three KanCare plans they had been tentatively assigned to; explaining how to make a different choice if desired; describing the relative benefits available to them under each of the three KanCare plans; describing grievances and appeals; and providing contact information for eligibility and the enrollment broker, as well as each of the KanCare plans. A further notice will be mailed in late November-early December 2012 to HCBS beneficiaries specifically, which will specifically address the how the HCBS services will transition into KanCare, how the HCBS waiver services will continue, the 180 day transition safeguard for existing plans of care, and when applicable the role of new ADRC/level of care determination contractors. The materials provided are in languages, formats and reading levels to meet enrollee needs. The State will track returned mail and make additional outreach attempts for any beneficiary whose notification is returned.

During the first 180 days of the program, the State will continue with its educational activities after initial implementation to ensure providers, beneficiaries, and stakeholders are reminded of their enrollment and choice options.

2. **Efforts to Preserve Existing Provider Relationships.** Wherever possible, the State has pre-assigned members to a health plan in which its existing providers are participating. Beneficiaries will be allowed to access services with existing providers during the first 90 days of implementation, regardless of whether the provider is in the plan's network. If a new plan of care is not established in this 90 day period, this protection of both services and existing providers will continue up to either 180 days or the time a new plan of care is established. This period is extended to one year for residential service providers. For beneficiaries who do not receive a service assessment and revised service plan within the first 180 days, the health plan will be required to continue the service plan already in existence until a new service plan is created, agreed upon by the enrollee, and implemented. A member who does not receive a service assessment and revised service plan during the 90 day choice period may disenroll from his or her health plan "for cause" within 30 days of receiving a new plan of care, and select another KanCare plan managed care organization.

3. **Information Sharing with KanCare Health Plans.** Once the member is assigned to a health plan, the State and/or current case management entities will transmit the following data to the consumer's new MCO:

- Outstanding Prior Authorizations
- Functional assessments
- Plan of Care (along with associated providers)
- Notices of Action
- Historical claims
- Historical Prior Authorizations

This information serves as a baseline for the health plan's care management process and allows the care management team to assess the level of support and education the member may need.

4. **Continuity of Services During the Transition.** In order to maintain continuity of services and allow health plans time to outreach and assess the members, the State of Kansas has required the KanCare health plans to authorize and continue all existing PD services for a period of 180 days, or until a comprehensive needs assessment is completed face-to-face and a new, person centric plan of care, is developed and approved.

Also, to ensure continuity of services, the State will allow providers to continue to use the State's MMIS to enter claims. The option will ease a technical consideration of the transition for providers who do not have experience billing directly to commercial clearinghouses or other payers.

5. **Intensive State Oversight.** Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services long term care licensure and quality assurance staff will provide oversight and "ride alongs" with health plan staff to ensure a smooth transition for the first 180 days. The State will review any reductions or termination of services and must approve any reduction in advance of the change.

Enrolees will have all appeal rights afforded through the MCO and state fair hearing process, including the ability to continue services during the appeal.

The State will require each health plan to maintain a call center and will review call center statistics daily. The State will also hold regular calls with each health plan to discuss key operational activities and address any concerns or questions that arise. Issues to be discussed can include, but are not limited to, network reporting and provider panel size reports, call center operations, reasons for member calls, complaint and appeal tracking, health plan outreach activities, service planning, data transfer, claims processing, and any other issue encountered during transition. The State will also review beneficiary complaints and grievances/appeals during the initial implementation on a frequent basis, and will have comprehensive managed care oversight, quality improvement and contract management.

6. **Designation of an Ombudsman.** There will be a KanCare Ombudsman in the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services. The KanCare Ombudsman helps people in Kansas who are enrolled in a KanCare plan, with a primary focus on individuals participating the HCBS waiver program or receiving other long term care services through KanCare.

The KanCare Ombudsman helps health plan members with access and service concerns, provides information about the KanCare grievance and appeal process that is available through the KanCare plans and the state fair hearing process, and assists KanCare consumers seek resolution to complaints or concerns regarding their fair treatment and interaction with their KanCare plan.

The KanCare Ombudsman will:

Help consumers to resolve service-related problems when resolution is not available directly through a provider or health plan.

Help consumers understand and resolve notices of action or non-coverage.

Assist consumers learn and navigate the grievance and appeal process at the KanCare plan, and the State fair hearing process, and help them as needed.

Assist consumers to seek remedies when they feel their rights have been violated.

Assist consumers understand their KanCare plan and how to interact with the programs benefits.

Additional Needed Information (Optional)

Provide additional needed information for the waiver (optional):

N/A